

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Jerome D. Brown et al.

Serial No.: 10/672,166

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Docket No.: 10387US01 (I201.180.101)

Title: TAPE REEL ASSEMBLY WITH RADIALLY SYMMETRIC DEFORMING TAPE WINDING SURFACE**IN THE DISCLOSURE**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 20, with the following re-written paragraph:

As described above, the tape reel assembly 100 is a two-piece assembly comprising the hub 102 having the first flange 106 connected thereto, and the discrete second flange 108. When assembled, the first and second flanges 106, 108, respectively, extend in a radial fashion from opposing sides of the hub 102. During use, as the storage tape 28 (FIG. 1) is wrapped about the tape winding surface 121, a compressive force is exerted radially inward to the hub 102 causing a deformation of the tape winding surface 121. It has been newly discovered and described herein that a selected positioning of the web ~~124~~118 between the cylindrical core 112 and the annular arm 116 can be optimized such that the deformation of the tape winding surface 121 is symmetric. In particular, the radial deformation of the tape winding surface 121 on either side of the centerline  $C_{LL}$  can be made equal by the position of the web center  $W_{CC}$  relative to the annular arm 116.